

**Town Manager's Office
Town of Mansfield**

Memo

To: Town Council
From: Matt Hart, Town Manager
CC: Town Employees
Date: September 9, 2013
Re: Town Manager's Report

Below please find a report regarding various items of interest to the Town Council, staff and the community:

Departmental Reports

- *Town Manager's Office, Staff Appointments and Retirements* – Please join me in welcoming the following new staff and congratulating those staff members that have been promoted:
 - *Director of Human Services* - The Town is pleased to announce that Ms. Patricia R. Schneider has been appointed as the next Human Services Director. Ms. Schneider was selected following a competitive recruitment process and will begin work in Mansfield on September 30, 2013. Ms. Schneider is an accomplished professional with over 25 years of experience in the municipal human services field. She has served as the Town of Glastonbury's Human Services Director since 2003 where she is responsible for managing and leading a department with a \$2.5 million operating budget and a staff of over 40 people. She has previously served as the Senior Services Director for the towns of Glastonbury and South Windsor and is a peer reviewer for National Senior Center Accreditation. Ms. Schneider holds a master's degree in social work from the University of Connecticut, a bachelor's degree in social work from St. Joseph's College, a gerontology certificate from St. Joseph's College, and is a licensed clinical social worker (LCSW). Pat strikes me as someone who has great vision and the managerial ability to achieve key initiatives, and I believe that she will prove an excellent fit for Mansfield. We have scheduled a reception to welcome Ms. Schneider to the community for Tuesday, October 15, 2013 from 7:00-7:30PM in Council Chamber here at the Beck Municipal Building.
 - *Assistant to the Collector of Revenue* - On Friday, August 30th, the Town hosted a retirement reception for Cheryl Urban. Cheryl retired from the Collector's Office after 27 years of dedicated service to our community. Thank you and congratulations, Cheryl!
 - *Revenue Specialist* - Kyler Armando has been selected as Cheryl Urban's replacement, under the new title of Revenue Specialist. Kyler is a recent graduate of UCONN with a bachelor's degree in Finance and had worked as a student intern in our Finance and Revenue offices. We are pleased to have Kyler on board!

Major Projects and Initiatives

- *Mansfield Tomorrow* – The Mansfield Tomorrow initiative is still going strong. The Economic and Housing Focus Groups met this summer to review the draft strategy reports; those reports are currently being revised to reflect their comments and will be posted on-line once they are finalized. We are expecting to have a draft of the new Plan of Conservation and Development available for review by the Mansfield Tomorrow Advisory Group and town advisory committees in October and are hoping to have a final draft published for public review and comment later this fall. Draft housing, economic development, agriculture and conservation strategies are available for review at ideas.mansfieldtomorrow.com, and there is an interactive map where folks can provide ideas for specific places available on www.mansfieldtomorrow.com. Please continue to check www.mansfieldtomorrow.com for updates as we move forward.

- *Storrs Center*
 - *Construction Update* – One Royce Circle opened at the beginning of August with 195 new apartments, and the retail store oneTribe followed with an opening in early September. Several tenants expect to move in this fall with the final tenants in early 2014. TS-3 is under construction with completion scheduled for August 2014. It will include 92 apartments and commercial spaces below including a CVS. Construction on Price Chopper also continues with a scheduled opening in mid-2014. Work continues on the intermodal transportation center with opening planned for November. The Downtown Partnership plans to hold a public hearing on the design of the town square on Tuesday, September 17 at 7:00PM in the Council Chamber. Questions may be directed to the Mansfield Downtown Partnership (storrscenterinfo@mansfieldct.org or 860.429.2740). The Partnership continues to maintain a construction website for updates at <http://storrscenterconstruction.blogspot.com>.

Upcoming Events

- *Celebrate Mansfield Weekend* – Celebrate Mansfield Weekend is scheduled for September 20-22, 2013. The Storrs Center Grand Opening will be held on at 11:00AM on Friday, September 20 at Dog Lane. The grand opening will be followed by a ribbon cutting for the Oaks on the Square at 1 Dog Lane, and a tour of the new Oaks building at 1 Royce Circle. Music will occur on Dog Lane until the early evening to celebrate the day. All are invited to the Grand Opening! It is Family Fun Night at the Community Center, and at 7:30PM, StoDoArts will host the movie “Grease” at von der Mehden Recital Hall. The weekend continues on Saturday with guided walks of Moss Sanctuary and Whetten Woods, and music at the Storrs Farmers Market. The Ballard Institute and Museum of Puppetry will present a Puppet Slam at 8:00PM at UConn’s Studio Theatre. On Sunday, the 10th Annual Festival on the Green kicks off the Celebrate Mansfield Parade at noon along Storrs Road. The Festival continues until 4:00PM in front of E.O. Smith High School with children’s events, music, juried art show, a photo booth, balloon art, food, cooking demos and much more.

Miscellaneous

- *Cool School* - The Sierra Club’s *Sierra Magazine* has selected UConn as its top “Cool School” for 2013 in recognition of their commitment to sustainability and environmental initiatives in their academic programs and throughout their physical plant. The Sierra Club, the largest environmental grassroots organization in the United States, ranks schools based on sustainability data collected in several subject areas. *Sierra Magazine* spotlights the forward-thinking universities that are making a difference for the planet and emphasizing environmental responsibility. You can find the complete rankings for Sierra Club’s seventh annual “America’s Coolest Schools” and more on what makes UConn rated so highly in the Sierra Club’s magazine’s website, sierraclub.org/coolschools.
- The Yankee Institute for Public Policy recently conducted a transparency audit on each of Connecticut’s 169 towns and cities and gave Mansfield a score of 100. For more information about the audit and scoring, please see [item # 15](#) in your meeting packet.

Upcoming Meetings*

- Youth Service Bureau Advisory Board, September 10, 2013, 11:45 AM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Town-University Relations Committee, September 10, 2013, 4:00 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Historic District Commission, September 10, 2013, 7:00 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Four Corners Sewer and Water Advisory Committee, September 10, 2013, 7:00 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Transportation Advisory Committee, September 10, 2013, 7:00 PM, Employee Lounge, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Sustainability Committee, September 11, 2013, 5:30 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building

- Zoning Board of Appeals, September, 11, 2013, 7:00 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Playground Committee, September 12, 2013, 7:00 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Solid Waste Advisory Committee, September 12, 2013, 7:00 PM, Conference Room C, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Committee on Committees, September 13, 2013, 8:00 AM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Personnel Committee, September 16, 2013, 6:00 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Planning and Zoning Commission, September 16, 2013, 7:00 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Mansfield Downtown Partnership Board of Directors, September 17, 2013, 6:30 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Human Services Advisory Committee, September 18, 2013, 2:00 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Cemetery Committee, September 18, 2013, 3:30 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Conservation Commission, September 18, 2013, 7:30 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Town Council, September 23, 2013, 7:30 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building

**Meeting dates/times are subject to change. Please view the [Town Calendar](#) or contact the Town Clerk's Office at 860-429-3302 for a complete and up-to-date listing of committee meetings.*